

Operations Worldwide



IN any given month in 1997 an average of 31,000 active duty, National Guard or Reserve soldiers were deployed to as many as 100 countries.

Missions Large and Small

In large-scale operations, the active Army deployed thousands of soldiers to train and provide assistance in countries around the world. But much Army activity was undertaken at home, and often on a much smaller scale. One of the Army's smallest elements, the Technical Escort Unit, for example, was called by the FBI in March to recover and identify a suspected chemical agent found in New York City. Later in the year, the TEU was alerted to support

Photography (clockwise from left): Cpl. Bernadette Paris, USARSO PAO; SSgt. David Dyer, 145th PAD, Oklahoma National Guard; Sgt. John M. Kaviak, location unknown; Spec. Brian Murphy, USARSO PAO. Digital composition by Paul Henry Crank.



removal of a suspected biological agent found in Washington, D.C.

One specialized unit is the small group of soldiers who deployed to Laos as part of Joint Task Force Full Accounting to investigate and possibly recover the remains of service members reported missing in action during the Vietnam war.

Overseas deployments for National Guard and Reserve soldiers included peacekeeping missions in Bosnia and humanitarian projects such as road building or civil construction in South and Central America and the Pacific. At the same time, Guard members at home provided shelter for families forced from their homes by disasters in Arizona, performed border patrols and flood cleanup missions in California, assisted in blizzard cleanup and flood control in the Dakotas, and assisted law enforcement officials in Puerto Rico.

Joint and Allied Training

The Army continued to place a high priority on training, especially

training with joint or allied forces. The Army's largest exercise participation was in Roving Sands '97, which involved more than 20,000 people from the joint services and allied participants from Germany, Canada and the Netherlands. Other important exercises included the 10th Mountain Division's Exercise Eastern Thunder at Fort Drum, N.Y.; U.S. Army Forces Command and the U.S. Army Special Operations Command participation in Exercise Cooperative Nugget; and the 25th Infantry Div. deployment from Hawaii to Thailand for Exercise Cobra Gold.

In smaller exercises soldiers from the Italy-based Southern European Task Force deployed to Bulgaria for Exercise Peaceful Eagle; soldiers from 1st Cavalry Div. at Fort Hood, Texas, trained with the Kuwaiti army in Exercise Intrinsic Action; and elements of the 82nd Airborne Div., Fort Bragg, N.C., deployed to Haiti for Exercise Fairwinds. The 25th Inf. Div. also sent troops to Australia's Exercise Tandem Thrust; and soldiers from U.S. Army, Pacific, units, III Corps at Fort Hood, and individual augmentees from the Guard and Reserve deployed to South Korea for a command post exercise.

Peacekeeping Around the World

Special forces soldiers and other specialized units deployed to Africa to begin training battalion-size units in Senegal and Uganda as a first step in implementing the African Crisis Response Initiative, an effort to create rapidly deployable units within the region to respond to humanitarian crises or traditional peacekeeping operations there.

Soldiers from the 1st Inf. Div. remain deployed to Macedonia for Operation Able Sentry, the border patrol mission that began in July 1993. The Army also has soldiers in Ecuador and Peru providing support to the Military Observer Mission there as part of Joint Task Force Safe Border, which began in March 1995. Soldiers from Fort Bliss, Texas, continue to provide theater ballistic missile defense for Operation Desert Falcon in Saudi Arabia, and soldiers from Fort Drum and Fort Bragg continue to serve with the 15-year-old Multinational Force and Observers in the Sinai. The MFO monitors provisions of the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt pertaining to the Sinai and supervises the demilitarized zone. Soldiers from Fort Lewis, Wash., and Hawaii have been in Guam since September 1996 participating in Operation Pacific Haven, providing security for Kurdish evacuees housed at Andersen Air Force Base.